

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 03030 210918Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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-----123560 220404Z /63
R 201845Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5426
INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS SHUM, AR
SUBJECT ALEJANDRO DEUTSCH SEEKING DAUGHTERS RELEASE FROM PEN

1. ALEJANDRO DEUTSCH HAS RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO MONTEVIDEO, WHERE HE SAID GOODBYE TO HIS TWO DAUGHTERS AND PROSPECTIVE SON IN LAW ANTONIO GRANERO BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE TO THE US, WITH THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING HIS DAUGHTERS FREEDOM. DEUTSCH CALLED ON AMBASSADOR AND CONSUL GENERAL APRIL 18 TO THANK USG FOR ITS EFFORTS ON HIS FAMILIES BEHALF AND URGE CONTINUED US PRESSURE FOR THE RELEASE OF HIS YOUNGEST CHILD, LILIANA, FROM EXECUTIVE DENTION. HE STATED THAT ONLY REASON FOR HIS RELEASE AFTER SEVEN MONTHS AND HIS RELATIVELY LESS BRUTAL TREATMENT WAS THE INTEREST OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE USG IN HIS FAMILYS WELL BEING. WHILE IN BA, HE MET WITH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNAL SECURYT SAN ROMAN, AS WELL AS POLICE AND FEDERAL PRISON OFFICIALS REGARDING HIS DAUGHTERS RELEASE.

2. DEUTSCH APPEARS IN GOOD SPRITS. HE AN
MRS DEUTSCH HAVE APPARENTLY MADE FIRM DECISION
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 03030 210918Z

TO LEAVE ARGENTINA FOR THE US AS SOON AS HIS DAUGHTER IS RELEASES. HE HAS BEGUN TO LIQUIDATE HIS BUSINESS AND OTHER HOLDINGS IN CORDOBA, BUT WILL DO SO CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE LOSSES, LEAVING HIS BUSINESS TO HIS EMPLOYEES IF UNSOLD. HE INVITED AMB TO VISIT THE FAMILY IN CORDOBA.

3. CONSUL GENERAL HAS ISSUED "RIGHT OF OPTION" CERTIFICATE IN LILIANA DEUTSCHS BEHALF. TO DATE HOWEVER FAMILY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT LILIANA DEUTSCH TO BEGIN FORMAL ACTION WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT FOR A "RIGHT OF OPTION" PERMISSION FOR HER TO LEAVE ARGENTINA.

4. MRS DEUTSCH RETURNED TO ARGENTINA FROM URUGUAY BEFORE HER HUSBAND IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE USUAL FRIDAY OPPORTUNITY TO SEND IN A PACKAGE TO HER DAUGHTER LILIANA. SHE WAS ALARMED TO BE TOLD THAT LILIANA HAD BEEN MOVED FROM HER REGULAR PLACE OF IMPRISONMENT. THE FAMILY LEARNED ON MONDAY THAT ABOUT 20 PEN PRISONERS, INCLUDING LILIANA DEUTSCH, HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY REMOVED AND HELD IN ANOTHER PLACE AT A TIME COINCIDING WITH THE FIRST VISIT BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. (COMMENT: EMBOFFS ARE SEEING ICRC OFFICIALS NERSI AND TSCHIFFELI THIS WEEK AND MAY BE ABLE TO ADD DETAILS TO THIS.)

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT BEST PRESENT

AVENUE FOR LILIANA DEUTSCHS RELEASE IS VIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUENOS 03030 210918Z

RIGHT OF OPTION PROGRAM. THIS WILL ALLOW THIRD ARMY CORPS TO ACCEDE GRACEFULLY (IF IT WISHES TO) TO MS DEUTSCHS EXPULSION FROM ARGENTINA. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT MS DEUTSCHS RIGHT OF OPTION CERTIFICATE REQUEST AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOA. CASTRO

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